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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.

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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health

1956



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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
THIRTY FIRST DECEMBER  
ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED & FIFTY - SIX

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)

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# **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

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DAY OF MEETING :

Second TUESDAY in each month.

*Chairman :*

Councillor R. V. NELMS

*Members :*

Councillor Miss M. GEORGE	Councillor W. I. JONES
Councillor A. H. MAGGS	Councillor J. LEWIS
Councillor A. S. J. HILLIER	Councillor S. WRIGHT
Councillor Mrs. M. BATH	Councillor E. A. BENNETT
Councillor Mrs. L. WATTS	Councillor R. V. NELMS
Councillor W. M. REES	Councillor Mrs. M. LEWIS
Councillor A. JONES	Councillor A. MORGAN
Councillor E. J. BILLING	Councillor E. JENKINS
Councillor R. G. OWEN	Councillor W. MORGAN

## **Staff of Public Health Department**

<i>Medical Officer of Health.....</i> <i>(part time)</i>	J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)
<i>Senior Sanitary Inspector.....</i>	W. J. WATTERS, C.R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Other Foods, R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
<i>Sanitary Inspectors.....</i>	G. M. JAMES, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Other Foods, R.S.I., M.S.I.A.  W. C. GRIFFITHS, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.
<i>Clerk.....</i>	H. J. THOMAS

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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Medical Officer of Health's  
Annual Report

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
OXFORD STREET,  
MOUNTAIN ASH,

November, 1957.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash  
Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1956.

I desire to record my thanks to the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. W. J. Watters, and to the staff of the Health Department for their hard work and assistance to me during the year.

Yours sincerely,

J. LL. WILLIAMS,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

**GENERAL STATISTICS.**

Area of the District	...	...	...	...	10,504 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	30,670
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1956)					
according to the Rate Books	...	...			8,565
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£163,989
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...			...	£562



## EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live-Births : Legitimate ...	456	243	213
Illegitimate ...	6	3	3
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population ...	15.06		
Still-Births : Legitimate ...	14	5	9
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births registered ...	29.4		
Deaths           ...       ...       ...	390	205	185
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated average population ...	12.72		
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—			
	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.	
No. 30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion       ...       ...	1	2.1	

### BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered in the district during the year was 462. The number of males was 246 and females 216. This gives a birth-rate of 15.06 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 30,670 (Registrar General).

The Birth-rate is .54 lower than the rate for England and Wales, and .07 lower than the rate for the Administrative County. It is .04 lower than in 1955.

The number of illegitimate children registered was (3 males and 3 females). This is equivalent to an illegitimacy rate of 12.9 per 1,000 birth registered.

### INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of death of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year was 12, 5 males and 7 females. This gives an infantile death rate of 25.97 per 1,000 live births registered, and .38 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

The infantile death-rate of 25.97 per 1,000 births registered is 10.59 lower than for 1955.

The neo-natal mortality rate (the number of deaths during the first month of life) was 17.3 per 1,000 births and is 66.66 per cent. of the infantile death-rate.

I append a table showing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death-rate per 1,000 births for the past ten years. Also, a table comparing the Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality for the Mountain Ash Urban Area with other areas for 1956 :—

<i>Year</i>	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Number of Deaths ... ..	48	30	25	25	233
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	73.0	46.0	46.0	48.6	41.77
<i>Year</i>	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Number of Deaths ... ..	29	13	10	17	122
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	50.8	24.7	21.2	36.56	25.99



# DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1956, classified

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

## ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE

	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents wh						
	Under One year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years	4 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
..	—	—		—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
n ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hatic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
stem ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
se ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ystem..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
m ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
bea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
n ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
diseases	9	1	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ar ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.....	12	1	—	—	—	1	—

## DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1956, classified by age and causes.

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

## ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

Cause of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District												Total
	Under One year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years	4 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 20 years	20 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tuberculosis—Respiratory .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	5
Tuberculosis—Other Forms .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	10	21
"    "    Lung, Bronchus .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	10
"    "    Breast .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
"    "    Uterus .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	15	19	35
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	41	53
Coronary disease, angina .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	21	35	57
Hypertension with heart disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	12
Other Heart disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	10	22	39
Other circulatory disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12
Influenza .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	9
Bronchitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	22	28
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	9
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	6
Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital malformations .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	9	40	61
Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
All other accidents .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5
Suicide .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Homicide and operations of war .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL .. ..	12	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	7	8	111	248	390

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages

[illegible]



**INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.**

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 4 weeks and under 3 months</i>	<i>3-6 3 months and under 6 months</i>	<i>6-9 6 months and under 9 months</i>	<i>9-12 9 months and under 12 months</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other T.B. Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia all forms	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Accidental	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Premature Birth ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes ... ..	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	3
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> ...	<b>7</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>

## INFANT MORTALITY. NEO-NATAL MORTALITY.

SOURCE.	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	Deaths under four weeks.	Rate per 1,000 live births.
England & Wales ...	—	23.8	—	—
Glamorgan County....	352	30.27	236	20.29
Urban Districts ...	257	29.97	164	19.13
Rural Districts ...	95	31.10	72	23.57
<b>Mountain Ash...</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>25.97</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17.32</b>

## Other Glamorgan Districts :—

Aberdare ...	16	28.42	13	23.09
Barry ...	23	31.46	13	17.78
Bridgend ...	9	34.48	9	34.48
Caerphilly ...	21	27.49	12	15.71
Gelligaer ...	31	48.14	18	27.95
Pontypridd ...	10	18.62	4	7.45
Rhondda ...	45	29.53	26	17.06

**STILL-BIRTHS.**

The number of Still-births registered during the year was 14 (5 males and 9 females) and is 2.9 per cent. of the total births registered.

The Still-birth rate per 1,000 Registered Live and Still-births was 29.4.

**DEATHS (All Ages).**

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 390. This gives a Death-rate of 12.72 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 30,670.

The causes of death in the various age groups were as set out in the following tables :—

## Notifiable Diseases

---

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Number of Cases recorded on Form 118e (cor- rected figures)</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever ... ..	44	44	4	—
Pneumonia ... ..	15	15	10	9
Measles ... ..	26	26	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	5	5	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	5	2	5	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	13	13	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	3	3	—	—
Sonne Dysentery ... ..	1	1	1	—
Tuberculosis :—				
(a) Pulmonary { Males ...	16	16	13	4
{ Females ...	12	12	7	1
{ Total ...	28	28	20	5
(b) Non- Pulmonary { Males ...	1	1	1	—
{ Females ...	3	3	—	—
{ Total ...	4	4	1	—



# **NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1956. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2 years</i>	<i>2 to 3 years</i>	<i>3 to 4 years</i>	<i>4 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 10 years</i>	<i>10 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 20 years</i>	<i>20 to 35 years</i>	<i>35 to 45 years</i>	<i>45 to 65 yrs.</i>	<i>65 &amp; over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	4	2	1	28	7	—	—	—	—	—	44
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	2	1	1	—	15
Measles ...	2	4	6	5	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	26
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	5
Meningococcal Inf. ...	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough ...	—	2	—	3	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Sonne Dysentery ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>112</b>

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1956. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darran- las</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysy- bwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Cases removed to Hospital.</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	7	3	9	18	6	1	44	4
Pneumonia ...	1	3	2	9	—	—	15	10
Measles ...	7	5	2	9	1	2	26	—
Erysipelas ...	—	3	1	1	—	—	5	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	1	3	1	—	—	5	5
Whooping Cough ...	4	3	4	1	1	—	13	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	1	1	—	3	—
Sonne Dysentery ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>20</b>



Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1956

Name of Institution	W A R D S													
	MALES							FEMALES.						
	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total
Sully Hospital .. .. .	—	1	2	2	4	—	9	—	1	3	—	3	—	7
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ..	1	1	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mardy Isolation Hospital .. .. .	1	2	5	5	5	—	18	—	—	2	5	1	—	8
Pontsarn Hospital .. .. .	—	1	2	2	2	—	7	—	—	2	3	1	—	6
Llangwyfan Hospital, Denbigh .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Tonteg Isolation Hospital .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Glan Ely Hospital .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	3
Energlyn Hospital .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tyntyla Hospital .. .. .	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	2	5	10	10	13	3	43	—	2	7	8	7	3	27





Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1956

Ages		W A R D S													TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY		
		MALES							FEMALES								
		Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Males	Females
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	7	—	1	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—		
TOTAL		—	—	3	4	7	2	16	—	1	2	7	2	—	12	4	1
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
65 years and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTAL		1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—



## TUBERCULOSIS.

The close liaison between the Chest Physician, the Local Health Authority and this Authority has been maintained and has again been responsible for the improvement in the living conditions of some of the patients.

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-rate per 1,000 population for the year was 0.16. This is 0.16 lower than for 1955.

There were no deaths from Other Forms of Tuberculosis during the year under review.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district during the past ten years :—

Year.	CASES NOTIFIED.		DEATHS.	
	Pulmonary	Other Forms.	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.
1947	... 48	5	20	6
1948	... 49	10	20	2
1949	... 34	6	18	—
1950	... 44	7	18	6
1951	... 54	6	14	1
1952	... 59	6	16	—
1953	... 73	5	15	1
1954	... 52	4	9	—
1955	... 35	4	10	1
1956	... 28	4	5	—

I append Tables showing the Age and Ward Distribution of all cases notified and the number treated at the various sanatoria :—

## Laboratory Work

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### CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Arrangements for the chemical and bacteriological examinations of specimens from this area are the same as in previous years.

With the exception of Sputum Outfits (which must be obtained from the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic) all other outfits for the collection and transmission of specimens can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash. Medical Practitioners within the area are aware of this fact.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the result :—

DISEASE SUSPECTED.	Number of Specimens.	Results.	
		Positive.	Negative.
Food Poisoning :—			
Faeces    ...    ...	15	1	14
Paratyphoid “B” :—			
Faeces    ...    ...	3	2	1
Diphtheria :—			
Throat Swab ...	2	—	2
Dysentery & Enteric :—			
Faeces    ...    ...	42	—	42
Urine    ...    ...	19	—	19

## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is under the control of the Council, and during the year there was a six weeks period of part restriction of supplies. Apart from the outlying farms and premises, all the houses in the area have a piped supply of water from the Council's mains. In addition, the Trading Estate at Ynysboeth is supplied and an emergency supply is given to the Trading Estate, Hirwaun.

The sources, gathering grounds and reservoirs, apart from the Penderyn Reservoir in Brecknockshire, are within the Mountain Ash Urban Area, and the capacity of the reservoirs is as follows :—

Penderyn Reservoir	...	...	132,000,000	gallons
Clydach Reservoir	...	...	11,550,000	„
Darranlas Reservoir	...	...	3,500,000	„
Perthcelyn Reservoir	...	...	30,000,000	„
Buarth-y-Capel	...	...	500,000	„
Gilfach Reservoir	...	...	60,000	„
Cefnpennar Reservoir	...	...	23,000	„

In addition to the above reservoirs, there is an intake at Rhydygwreiddyn, Llanwonno, which is used occasionally.

The source of each supply is of an upland surface type, and tends to be soft in character. One supply of water, namely, the Darranlas Reservoir, which serves the main part of the town of Mountain Ash, is treated by sand filtration and chlorination, but the other sources are chlorinated only.

The water (raw and treated) from the sources in general use were sampled once monthly and, on occasions, more frequently. The sources not in general use were sampled when that water was used.

218 samples (109 chemical and 109 bacteriological) were taken and submitted to the Analyst at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for examination.

A table showing the results of bacteriological and chemical tests on the treated supplies is given below :—

SOURCE OF SUPPLY	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS				RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS			
	Number Samples	Satis- factory	Unsat- is'fory	% Satis.	No. of Samples	Satis- factory	Unsat- is'fory	% Satisf'ry
<b>Penderyn Reservoir</b> .. Raw .. Treated ..	19 37	— 26	— 11	— 70.29%	19 37	— 30	— 7	— 81%
<b>Perthcelyn Reservoir</b> .. Raw .. Treated ..	13 14	— 12	— 2	— 85.71%	13 14	— 14	— —	— 100%
<b>Darranlas Reservoir</b> .. Raw .. Treated ..	6 7	— 5	— 2	— 71.4%	6 7	— 7	— —	— 100%
<b>Clydach Reservoir</b> .. Raw .. Treated ..	6 7	— 6	— 1	— 85.7%	6 7	— 6	— 1	— 85.7%

No special action, apart from the usual precautions for the safety of the water, was taken.

#### PLUMBO SOLVENCY.

The whole of the sources are soft and there is, therefore, a danger of action on lead. All supplies are treated with chalk to eliminate this danger.

#### GWERNIFOR SWIMMING BATHS.

4 samples (2 chemical and 2 bacteriological) were taken during the year and proved to be satisfactory on examination. Routine treatment of the water with Copper Sulphate was carried out to obviate the growth of algae.

#### PADDLING POOL, ABERCYNON.

4 samples (2 chemical and 2 bacteriological) were taken during the year. All the samples were satisfactory.

### **RIVER POLLUTION.**

For some years past there has been a perceptible improvement in the condition of the River Cynon as it flows from the Aberdare Urban Area into the Mountain Ash Urban Area.

The improvement has been due to remedial works initiated by the Public Health Department of the Aberdare Urban District Council.

The almost complete disappearance of the grey flue dust from the river, which dates from the installation of settling ponds at the Middle Duffryn Power Station in May, 1955, caused a very real improvement in the purity of the river, although it should be noted that the river is still, from time to time, discoloured with a grey scum.

The most important advance, however, as regards the Mountain Ash area, took place in September, 1956, when the ammonia liquor effluent from the Phurnacite Plant,



which, like the Power Station, lies at the lower end of the Aberdare Urban area and just outside the Mountain Ash area, was prevented from entering the river and contained within a closed circuit in which it is concentrated and purified as a valuable by-product.

This effluent, which previously had been discharged into the river at the rate of 7,000 gallons an hour had, besides polluting the river, caused a serious nuisance in the Mountain Ash area due to the particularly offensive "stink" which arose from the river as it flows through the town, especially during certain weather conditions.

The river has also benefitted from improvements effected within the Mountain Ash area. A new type of plant installed at the Deep Duffryn Washery has limited the discharge of slurry into the river very considerably, and it is hoped that settling ponds, which are now in process of construction at the Washery, will completely eliminate the discharge of any slurry whatsoever.

Similar settling ponds and ancilliary plant are being constructed lower down the valley at the Penrhiwceiber Washery.

The completion of these plants should, theoretically, solve the major existing sources of industrial river pollution with the possible exception of that caused by the discharge of "pump" water from the pits, the exact effect of which, at the present time, is obscured.

The sewage improvement works proceeding in the Ynysybwll area are bound to lead to an improvement in the condition of the River Clydach, and it is hoped that a report submitted on the pollution of the River Cynon by sewage, will also eventually lead to the taking of remedial measures.

### **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.**

Apart from the pollution of the atmosphere from domestic chimneys and, under certain weather condition, from the ammonia liquor in the river, the major source of pollution





Table 2. ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR.

MOUNTAIN ASH					ABERDARE				
Year 1956	Mg. of SO <sub>3</sub> /day collected by 100 sq. cm. of "Batch A" PbO <sub>2</sub> (Louvered Cover) at				Year 1956	Mg. of SO <sub>3</sub> /day collected by 100 sq. cm. of "Batch A" P.b <sub>2</sub> (Louvered Cover) at			
Month	Hibernian Club	Trawscoed Aberdare Road	Mountain Ash Grammar School	4 Middle Duffryn	Month	Aberdare Co-op (Central)	Aman School	Parry's Bakery Abercwmboi	Cwmbach (Duffryn Row)
JUNE .....	1.20	0.62	0.72	0.99	JUNE .....	0.65	0.31	0.81	0.53
JULY .....	1.04	0.58	0.66	0.86	JULY .....	0.69	0.47	0.77	0.49
AUGUST.....	1.09	0.44	0.63	0.88	AUGUST.....	0.57	0.37	0.76	0.48
SEPTEMBER....	1.16	0.61	0.59	0.70	SEPTEMBER....	0.77	0.64	0.69	0.53
OCTOBER .....	2.01	0.81	1.01	1.14	OCTOBER .....	1.49	0.73	1.23	0.59
NOVEMBER ....	2.51	1.13	1.26	1.10	NOVEMBER ....	1.81	1.06	1.49	0.76
DECEMBER ....	2.30	1.13	1.40	1.38	DECEMBER.....	1.52	1.04	1.40	1.06

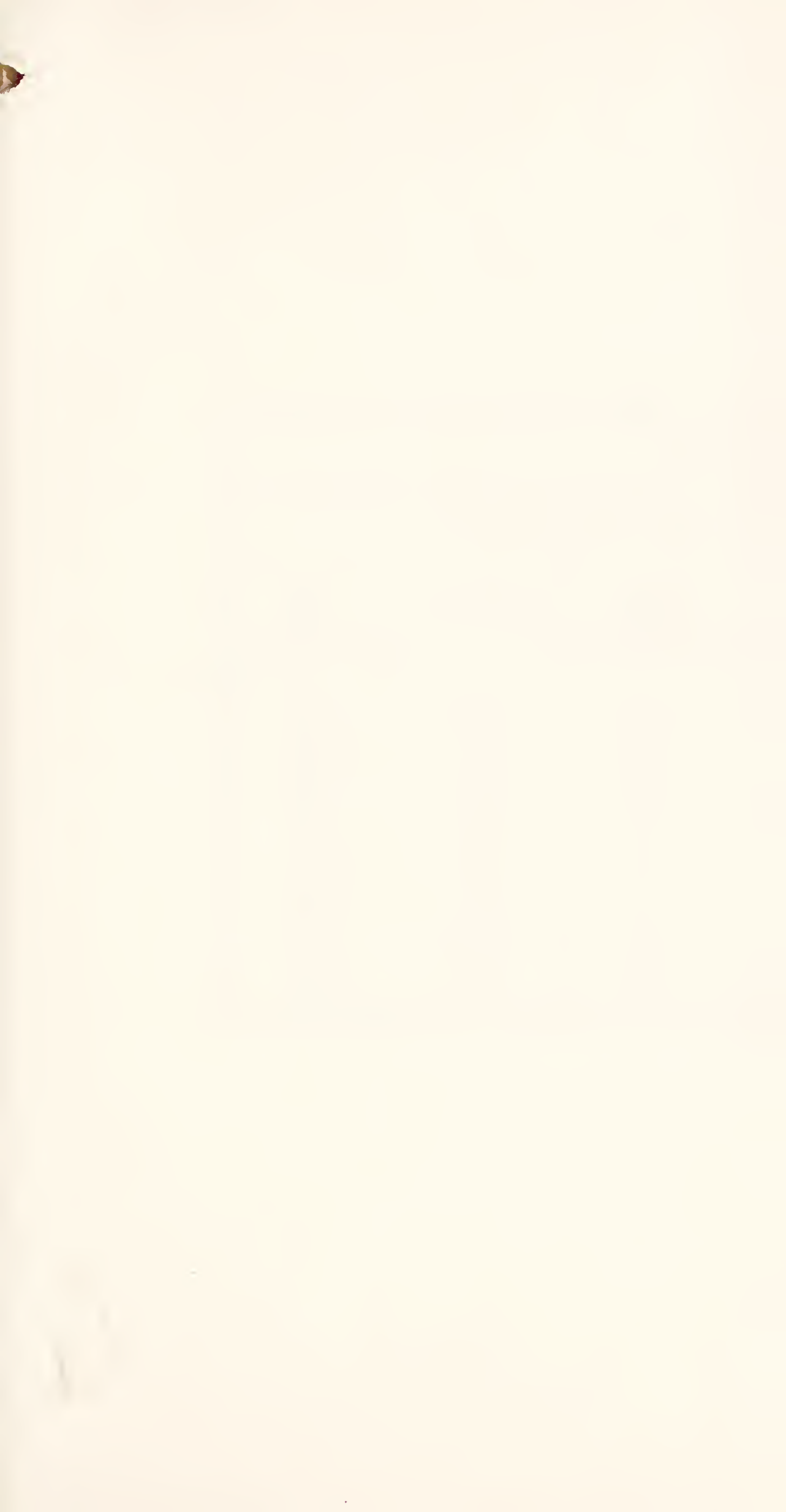


Table I. DEPOSITED MATTER.

MOUNTAIN ASH						ABERDARE					
YEAR 1956	TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED (Tons per Square Mile) AT					Year 1956	TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED (Tons per Square Mile) AT				
Month	Hibernian Club	Trawscoed Aberdare Road	M'tain Ash Grammar School	4 Middle Duffryn	Total of all Stations	Month	Aberdare Co-op (Central)	Aman School	Parry's Bakery Abercwmboi	Cwmbach (Duffryn Row)	Total of all Stations
JUNE .....	26.56	29.40	25.73	89.07	170.76	JUNE .....	13.69	20.64	38.93	30.58	103.84
JULY .....	26.15	27.45	51.41	95.83	199.84	JULY .....	13.39	29.23	24.43	36.05	103.10
AUGUST .....	29.57	31.78	39.66	113.11	214.12	AUGUST.....	13.93	19.30	23.79	35.55	92.57
SEPTEMBER..	25.18	23.69	22.99	96.78	168.64	SEPTEMBER..	18.89	64.25	20.85	38.12	142.11
OCTOBER ....	41.40	47.72	41.08	114.13	244.33	OCTOBER ....	18.23	35.00	31.76	34.53	119.52
NOVEMBER ..	30.81	34.63	28.82	82.83	117.09	NOVEMBER ..	18.29	47.87	25.55	23.22	116.93
DECEMBER ..	40.52	39.16	33.90	170.04	283.62	DECEMBER ..	29.39	50.87	29.33	48.30	157.89

emanates from the Phurnacite Plant, which lies just outside the boundary.

The consideration of atmospheric and river pollution in a valley such as the Cynon Valley has, fortunately, not been complicated by a necessity to give undue regard to district boundaries.

These problems, mutual to both Mountain Ash and Aberdare Urban District Councils, have given rise to a very satisfactory degree of liaison between the two authorities, accompanied by a free interchange of information. The latter permits it to be stated that the practical developments that have taken place at the Phurnacite Plant during 1956 in relation to remedying nuisances arising from dust, fumes and effluent, offer a very reasonable hope of an improvement in the atmospheric condition now affecting the Mountain Ash area.

In June, 1956, four Atmospheric Pollution Measuring Stations were installed in the Mountain Ash area.

Each atmospheric pollution station consists of a Deposit Gauge and Lead Peroxide "Candle," which measure deposited matter in the first instance and give an indication of pollution by Sulphur Dioxide in the second.

Being standard instruments, results from such instruments are comparable throughout the country and by submitting the results of analyses to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, which collates results from all over the country, the Authority is playing its part nationally in an endeavour to lessen atmospheric pollution as well as obtaining necessary and practical information on their own local problems.

The tables give the results from the Mountain Ash and Aberdare stations :—



# Food Hygiene Campaign

## FOOD CAMPAIGNS.

### (1) Number of Food Premises in the area :—

Grocery and Provision Dealers	..	..	58
General Dealers..	..	..	116
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	35
Fishmongers	..	..	2
Refreshments Dealers and Confectioners	..	..	15
Butchers	..	..	29
Fish Fryers	..	..	18
Confectionery only	..	..	4
Bakeries	..	..	9
Ice Cream (including Iced Lollies)	..	..	1
Licensed Premises	..	..	34
Mineral Water Manufacturers	..	..	1
Dairies	..	..	4
Wholesale Grocers	..	..	2
Canteens :			
Colliery	..	..	5
„ School	..	..	6
„ Railway	..	..	1
„ Factory	..	..	6

### (2) Number of Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

(1) Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	..	7
(2) Sale of Ice Cream	..	79
(3) Fried Fish & Chipped Potatoes	..	18
(4) Butchers Smalls	..	15

15 Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

### (3) 684 visits and inspections of registered food premises were made during the year.

The standard of handling, preparing, displaying and serving of food has improved considerably, but the human element remains. The public could be of great assistance in furthering this improvement by being more critical of slipshod, slovenly or unhygienic methods of handling and serving food.



It is my opinion, that, with the co-operation of the public, food handlers and managements, and the frequent inspections of food premises by your inspectors, further improvement could be achieved.

The inspection of all canteens and kitchens throughout the area was continued, and the very high standard of cleanliness and hygiene maintained.

- (4) Lectures on food hygiene were given during the year to staffs of kitchens and canteens in the area.

My thanks and appreciation are due to the management and staff for their ready co-operation and assistance.

- (5) Disposal of condemned food-burial in the Council's refuse tip. All tins are pierced before burial.

- (6) No special examination of food other than that which occurred in the normal routine work and is included in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

- (7) The Ice Cream Regulations, 1947-52.

All premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected frequently and comply with the above Regulations.

I am pleased to say that all vehicles used in the retail sale of Ice Cream have been maintained at the high standard approved by the Council.

29 samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

Provisional Grade 1 (Satisfactory).	Provisional Grade 2 (Fair).	Provisional Grade 3 (Unsatisfactory).
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25

2

2

- (8) The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

These Regulations came into force partly on 1st January, 1956, and partly on 1st July, 1956.

All food premises and food businesses were visited, and an abstract of the Regulations and a leaflet on Food Hygiene handed to the person in charge by your Inspectors.

In each case the Regulations were explained and interpreted.

As a result, there was an improvement in the general standard of hygiene, with the installation of water heaters, wash-up sinks, wash-hand basins, and in some instances, refrigerators and refrigerated display counters.

It is hoped that this improvement will continue.

## **HOUSING.**

### **Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932.**

No action has been taken by the Council under the above Regulations.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

I give herewith a statement showing the number of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1956.

SAMPLE.	No. taken.	SAMPLE.	No. taken
Milk .. ..	175	Bicarbonate of Soda ..	1
Rice Pudding Powder ..	1	Margarine .. ..	2
Custard Powder .. ..	4	Orange Squash .. ..	2
Baking Powder .. ..	2	Ice Cream .. ..	10
Tea Cake Mixture .. ..	2	Cornflour .. ..	2
Ground Almonds .. ..	3	Salad Cream .. ..	3
Dessert Powder .. ..	2	Mustard .. ..	3
Canned Tomatoes .. ..	1	Potted Salmon .. ..	1
Cod Liver Oil .. ..	1	Tomato Sauce .. ..	2
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules..	4	Glucose D. .. ..	1
Aspirin Tablets .. ..	2	Mushroom Soup .. ..	1
Vitamin Capsules, etc. ..	6	Shredded Beef Suet ..	2
Castor Oil .. ..	1	Dried Parsley .. ..	1
Tea .. ..	5	Coffee & Chicory Essence..	2
Rice .. ..	1	Lentils .. ..	1
Self Raising Flour .. ..	4	Redcurrant Jelly .. ..	1
Vinegar .. ..	5	Mixed Spice .. ..	1
Butter .. ..	14	Picalilly .. ..	1
Sponge Mixture .. ..	10	Patent Barley .. ..	1
Cake Mixture .. ..	13	Marzipan .. ..	2
Sugar .. ..	3	Lemonade Powder .. ..	1
Pudding Mixture .. ..	1	Currants .. ..	3
Lard.. ..	8	Canned Fish .. ..	1
Jam .. ..	5	Table Jelly .. ..	1
Sultanas .. ..	1	Semolina .. ..	1
White Pepper .. ..	4	Raspberry Juice Drink ..	1
Blancmange Powder .. ..	4	Icing Sugar .. ..	1
Cooking Fat .. ..	1	Sweets .. ..	2
Canned Rhubarb .. ..	2	Flour .. ..	1
Dessicated Coconut .. ..	3	Canned Stewed Steak ..	1
Dried Thyme .. ..	1	Glauber Salts .. ..	1
Glace Cherries .. ..	1	Epsom Salts .. ..	1
Cocoa .. ..	1	Canned Peas .. ..	2
Condensed Milk .. ..	2	Lemon Curd .. ..	1
Sterilised Cream .. ..	5	Camphorated Oil .. ..	1
		TOTAL ..	357

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical officer of Health, for supplying me with the above information.

# General Health and Welfare Services of the District

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## 1.—Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council :—

- (a) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.

These services are administered by the  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Headquarters : Divisional Health Offices,  
New Clinic Buildings, Rock Grounds,  
Aberdare.  
Tel. No. : Aberdare 441.

- (b) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE :—

The duly authorised officer for this area is,—

Mr. STANLEY WILLIAMS,  
Amroth, Clive Tce., Ynysybwl, Glam.  
Tel. No. : Ynysybwl 26.

- (c) AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at  
HAWTHORNE, PONTYPRIDD.

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2522.

- (d) WELFARE SERVICE :—

Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.

The local office for this area is at

Area Office, Llewellyn Street,  
Trecynon, Aberdare.  
Tel. No. : Aberdare 318.

## (e) CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT :—

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at

33 to 36 Adam Street, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. : Cardiff 31696 to 31698.

There is, however, working in this district a Children's Visitor :—

Mrs. DAVIES, Nafton House,  
Capel Street, Bargoed, Glam.

## (f) REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES :

This area comes under the Pontypridd District, and the Superintendent's Office is at

Courthouse Street,  
Pontypridd, Glam.  
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3132

The local offices are situated at

53 COMMERCIAL STREET, MOUNTAIN ASH.  
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2192.  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. ; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

GLANCYNON POST OFFICE, ABERCYNON.

Tuesday—9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

WORKMEN'S INSTITUTE, YNYSYBWL.

Tuesday—11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

## (g) PROBATION OFFICER :—

The address of the Principal Probation Office is at St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street, Pontypridd.

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2157.

For this area the address is,—

Probationer Officer Office,  
Cardiff Street, Aberdare.  
Tel. No. : Aberdare 332.



## 2.—HOSPITAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

Hospital facilities of this area are administered by the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at

St. Tydfil's Hospital,  
Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.  
Tel. No : Merthyr 900.

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by the residents of the area :—

Mountain Ash and Penrhiwceiber General Hospital,  
Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2213.

Lady Aberdare Maternity Hospital, Granville Tce.,  
Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2194.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed,  
Aberdare. Tel. No. : Aberdare 612.

Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil  
(*For Infectious Diseases*).  
Tel. No. : Merthyr 230.

Chest Clinic Melbourne House,, Penrhiwceiber Rd.,  
Penrhiwceiber.

(This Clinic is open on TUESDAY & FRIDAY  
mornings, 10 a.m. to 12 noon).

Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2119.

## 3.—SERVICES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

### (a) Ministry of National Insurance :—

Central Office (Wales) is at Cathays Park, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. : Cardiff 26411.

Local Office is at Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash.  
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2215.

(b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :—

This office is situated at the East entrance,  
Prudential Buildings,  
Cathays Park, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. : Cardiff 26161.

(c) National Assistance Board :—

The Area Office for this District is at  
Glanynys, Cwmbach Road, Aberdare  
Tel. No. : Aberdare 343.

4.—GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES :—

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive  
Council of.....47 Park Place Cardiff.  
Tel. No. : Cardiff 26216  
(National Health Council).

5.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the  
cost of burying four persons was accepted by this  
authority.

J. LL. WILLIAMS,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

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## MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Summary of Work done by the Public Health Inspectors

Number of premises inspected and re-visited    ..    ..    ..    3,825

Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public  
Health Act, 1936 :—

Informal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	577
Statutory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	364

### General Repairs—

Chimneys and fireplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	162
Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	364
Eavesgutters and downpipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	252
External walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
Windows and doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	188
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	..	200
Floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	79
Internal staircases	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Cupboards and skirtings	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Sculleries and pantries	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Yard pavements and steps	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
Dry Areas provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wash houses and coal houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Boundary and forecourt walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Dirty premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Fowl cots removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Repairs to water service	..	..	..	..	..	..	37

### Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936—

Number of Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	54
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### Drainage—

Cleansed, repaired and relaid	..	..	..	..	..	141
Drains tested	..	..	..	..	..	225
Wash-up sinks provided and repaired	..	..	..	..	..	28

### Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—

Number of Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	177
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### Sanitary Conveniences—

General Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	226
Water flushing apparatus repaired and renewed	..	..	..	..	..	87
New accommodation provided	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cesspools cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	6

**Factory Act, 1947—**

Number of bakehouses on register	..	..	..	..	9
Number of factories on register	..	..	..	..	100
Number of visits	..	..	..	..	—
Number of Notices	..	..	..	..	—
Number of outworkers	..	..	..	..	17

**Infectious Diseases—**

Number of cases visited	..	..	..	..	54
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**Disinfection—**

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease	..	83
Number of dirty or verminous houses sprayed or fumigated		92

**Licensed Premises—**

During the year joint inspections of licensed premises by the Licensing Magistrates, Police Authorities and myself were continued.

Following the inspections there has been a considerable improvement in the living conditions of the licensee and in the standard of hygiene of the premises.

It is hoped that this very desirable co-operation between the Licensing Magistrates, Police Authorities and the Public Health Department will continue.

## **FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK & DAIRIES) ACT, 1944**

### **The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

Powers of supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination are vested in the local Authority :—

Number of Distributors in Register	...	15
Number of Dairies in area	... ..	15
Number of visits	... ..	34

59 samples of milk were taken during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

3 samples were found to be unsatisfactory. In these instances, copies of the Analyst's reports were sent to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

18 samples were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli and found to be satisfactory.



## **MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) ACT, 1949.**

### **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

1 dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" was issued to a distributor of milk in this area.

## **MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)**

### **(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) REGULATION, 1949.**

11 dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" and 11 Licences for the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)" were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

6 dealers' Licences were issued for the use of the Special Designation „Sterilised."

1 Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designations "Pasterurised," "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasterised)" and "Sterilised" was issued to a distributor of milk residing outside the Urban Area.

## **INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**

9 Licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued during the year.

Notice of intended slaughter of 3 cottagers' pigs was received by the Public Health Department and the pigs were inspected by the Inspectors. The carcasses were, in each case, free from disease and passed as fit for human consumption.

A total of 1 ton, 3 cwts., 50 lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—



					Weight in lbs.
Bacon	..	..	..	..	117½
Sausages	..	..	..	..	120½
Cheese	..	..	..	..	77½
Butter	..	..	..	..	0½
Margarine	..	..	..	..	4
Cooked Ham		..	..	..	30½
Fish	..	..	..	..	154
Dried Fruit	..	..	..	..	700
Cake Mixture	..	..	..	..	5
Corned Beef	..	..	..	..	4
Lard	..	..	..	..	3½
Tinned Ham	..	..	..	..	232
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	..	324
Tinned Goods	..	..	..	..	854

### **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.**

Premises where pet animals are sold must be licensed annually by the local authority.

Two licences were issued during the year, and both premises were inspected in accordance with the provisions of the above Act.

### **RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.**

One factory in the area is registered as an upholstery premises and was visited frequently to see that the provisions of the above Act were complied with.

### **CINEMATOGRAPH AND STAGE PLAYS LICENCES.**

During the year the six cinemas and theatres in the area were inspected as regards interior cleanliness, condition of seats, sanitary conveniences and ventilation.

**RODENT CONTROL.****Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

During the year work on the destruction of rats was continued.

Private dwellings were treated free of cost to the occupiers, 50 per cent. of the costs incurred being recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. No grant is received in respect of business premises, and all expenditure has to be recovered from the occupiers of these premises.

Two full time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Council, and, details of the work carried out by them, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector, are as follows :—

Number of Preliminary Notices served :—

(1) for treatment           ...       ...       ...       —

(2) for structural work           ...       ...       13

Number of premises visited ...       ...       1,942

		Rats.	Mice.
Number of dwelling houses treated	..	413	192
Number of business premises treated	..	7	3
Number of schools kitchens treated	..	3	—
Number of refuse tips treated	.. ..	7	—
Number of embankments treated	..	7	—
Number of watercourses treated	.. ..	8	—
Number of sewer beds treated	.. ..	2	—
Number of back lanes treated	.. ..	2	—
Number of culverts treated	.. ..	9	—
Number of sections of river embankments treated	.. .. ..	34	—
Number of schools treated	.. ..	2	6
Number of canal banks treated	.. ..	2	—
Number of hospitals treated	.. ..	—	1
Number of cinemas treated	.. ..	2	1

## BLOCK TREATMENT.

A block treatment of 72-76 Park Street, Abercynon, sewer manholes, culvert, embankments, river embankments and old sewer beds of Merthyr and Aberdare Sewage farm was carried out. The estimated kill of rats, in accordance with the formula of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was 892 and 108 bodies were picked up.

## SEWER TREATMENT.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area were carried out during the year, one from 4th to 30th June, 1956, and the second from 19th November to 8th December, 1956, and 7th-12th January, 1957.

Out of 677 manholes treated, 407 showed a pre-bait take and 51 a complete pre-bait take on one or both of the days during the first treatment, whereas the figures for the second treatment were 371 and 43 respectively.

For these treatments, the Rodent Operatives were assisted by two men from the Surveyor's staff.

All sewer beds and refuse tips were treated at the same time, and all treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The bait used in the first treatment was Sausage Rusk and the poison, Zinc Phosphide and, for the second treatment, the bait was Bread Mash and the poison, Arsenious Oxide.

The nature and development of the Mountain Ash Urban Area and the close proximity of the dwelling houses and other premises to the Rivers Cynon and Clydach makes rodent infestation and reinfestation inevitable, and will necessitate constant and continued survey, treatment and supervision in the future.

W. J. WATTERS,

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